



03500.017890

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
SHINYA NODA, et al.)
:)
Application No.: 10/770,460)
:)
Filed: February 4, 2004)
:)
For: IMAGE FORMING)
APPARATUS : May 19, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Deputy Commissioner's pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, copies of U.S. patents and/or applications are not provided. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 6,021,290
U.S. Patent 6,300,970
Japan 2001-337499

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed

invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

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APPLICATION NO.

10/770,460

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Shinya Noda, et al

FILING DATE

February 4, 2004

GROUP

Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,021,290	2/1/00	Hamada, et al	399	92	
	6,300,970	10/9/01	Hamada, et al	347	264	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
2001-337499	12/7/01	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1